

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05

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O 121025Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1045

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2545

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, RH, SF, ZA

SUBJECT: IAN SMITH'S STATEMENT OF DEC 11 ON CEASE-FIRE IN RHODESIA

REF: STATE 271985 (NOTAL) LUSAKA 2544

1. THERE FOLLOWS FULL TEXT AS REPORTED IN TIMES OF ZAMBIA OF IAN SMITH'S RADIO/TV ADDRESS WHICH WAS CARRIED LIVE ON ZAMBIAN NETWORK AT 2000 HOURS LOCAL TIME WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC 11.

2. BEGIN TEXT. THERE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN A NUMBER OF MOVES BEHIND THE SCENES, IN WHAT HAS BECOME KNOWN AS DETENTE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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THESE MOVES HAVE BEEN DIRECTED AT BRINGING

TO AN END CONFRONTATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA
AND A SUBSTITUTION IN ITS STEAD CONDITIONS
IN WHICH PEACEFUL DISCUSSIONS OF OUR AFFAIRS
BECOMES THE INSTRUMENT WHEREBY DIFFERENCES CAN
BE RESOLVED AND THE BEST SOLUTIONS FOUND.

3. THERE IS, I AM SURE, NO NEED FOR ME TO SPELL
OUT THE BENEFITS FOR BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIANS
WHICH WOULD FLOW FROM A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF
THESE MOVES.

4. IT IS VERY LARGELY THE AFRICANS IN THE TRIBAL
TRUST LANDS IN THE NORTH-EASTERN BORDER AREA WHO
HAVE BORNE THE BRUNT OF TERRORIST ATTACKS. THE
NUMBER OF TRIBESMEN HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE PAST
TWO YEARS IS NOT FAR SHORT OF 200, AND MANY
THOUSANDS OF THEM HAVE BEEN LIVING IN
FEAR OF THEIR LIVES DURING THIS PERIOD.

5. TO AFFORD PROTECTION TO THESE PEOPLE IN THESE
AREAS, VALUABLE HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES HAVE
HAD TO BE DIVERTED FROM OUR MAIN TASK WHICH IS
TO DEVELOP OUR COUNTRY FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL
ITS PEOPLE.

6. LOOKING BEYOND OUR BORDERS WE HAVE AS
NEIGHBORS, IN ADDITION TO SOUTH AFRICA, THREE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WITH WHOM IT IS TO OUR
MUTUAL ADVANTAGE TO COOPERATE TO THE FULL.
FOR THESE REASONS I HAVE WELCOMED THE INITIATIVES
TOWARDS DETENTE WHICH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN MADE
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND WHICH HAVE NOW REACHED A
CLIMAX.

7. YOU ARE ALREADY AWARE THAT THE RHODESIAN
GOVERNMENT ITSELF TOOK A BOLD INITIATIVE IN
ALLOWING DETAINED AFRICAN LEADERS TO PROCEED
TO LUSAKA FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA
AND HIS COLLEAGUES.

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8. DURING THIS PERIOD CONTACTS ALSO TOOK PLACE BETWEEN
SALISBURY AND LUSAKA, BUT LAST WEEKEND IT BECAME
OBVIOUS TO US THAT SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES HAD
ARISEN. THESE WERE DESCRIBED IN A STATEMENT
RELEASED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON SATURDAY.

9. THE EXCHANGES HAVE CONTINUED THIS WEEK AND
THE DIFFICULTIES I HAVE MENTIONED HAVE NOW BEEN

RESOLVED. IN PARTICULAR, I HAVE, FIRSTLY,

RECEIVED ASSURANCES TO THE EFFECT THAT TERRORIST
ACTIVITIES IN RHODESIA WILL CEASE IMMEDIATELY
AND, SECONDLY, THAT THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL
CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE WITHOUT ANY PRECONDI-
TIONS.

10. ACCORDINGLY I HAVE AGREED TO RELEASE THE
AFRICAN LEADERS FROM DETENTION AND RESTRICTION,
AND THEIR FOLLOWERS AS WELL.

11. THEY WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENGAGE IN NORMAL
ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THE LAWS APPLICABLE TO
ALL RHODESIANS. I AM TAKING THIS ACTION ON THE
FIRM UNDERSTANDING THAT EVERYONE CONCERNED WILL
CONDUCT THEMSELVES PEACEFULLY AND WITHIN THE LAW.

12. THIS WILL I BELIEVE HELP THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE
FOR THE HOLDING OF A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE.
NO DOUBT THERE WILL BE SOME AMONG YOU WHO WILL FEED
CONCERNED AT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE DEVELOP-
MENTS. IN THE LIGHT OF EVENTS OF THE LAST DECADE
THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE. HOWEVER, LET ME REASSURE
YOU ALL, FIRSTLY, THAT IT IS YOUR GOVERNMENT'S
FIRM INTENTION TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER IN
RHODESIA, AND SECONDLY, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO
DEVIATE FROM OUR STANDARDS OF CIVILISATION.

13. THERE MAY BE SOME OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN MISLED
INTO THINKING THAT THE SITUATION IN RHODESIA
TODAY IS COMPARABLE WITH THE SITUATION THAT
EXISTED IN MOZAMBIQUE BEFORE THE COUP IN METRO-
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POLITAN PORTUGAL LAST APRIL. THE FALLACIES
AND MISCONCEPTIONS IN THIS LINE OF THINKING CAN
BE READILY EXPOSED.

14. BUT THIS IS NOT THE OCCASION FOR ME TO
ENLARGE ON THESE DIFFERENCES. LET ME ASSURE
YOU, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY
WHATEVER OF A SIMILAR TRAIN OF EVENTS OCCURRING
HERE IN RHODESIA.

15. THERE ARE TWO FURTHER WORDS OF WARNING
WHICH I BELIEVE ARE APPROPRIATE THIS EVENING.
FIRSTLY, ALTHOUGH I HAVE ACCEPTED IN COMPLETE
GOOD FAITH THAT THE TERRORISM WILL CEASE
IMMEDIATELY IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME FOR THIS

TO BE FULLY EFFECTIVE. PEOPLE IN THE AFFECTED AREAS SHOULD THEREFORE CONTINUE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE PRECAUTIONS.

16 SECONDLY, THIS ANNOUNCEMENT DOES NOT MEAN THAT A SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED AND IT CERTAINLY DOES NOT MEAN THAT SANCTIONS ARE ABOUT TO BE LIFTED. ON THE CONTRARY IT IS OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE THAT IN THE COMING MONTHS THE SECURITY OF COMMERCIAL INFORMATION SHOULD BE CAREFULLY SAFEGUARDED. ON SIMILAR OCCASIONS IN THE PAST WHEN SETTLEMENT EXPECTATIONS HAVE ARISEN OUR ECONOMIC INTEREST HAS BEEN PREJUDICED BECAUSE OF COMPLACENCY AND ACRELESSNESS.

17. FINALLY I CALL UPON ALL RHODESIANS OF ALL RACES TO ACCEPT THE NEW SITUATION IN OUR COUNTRY, TO PUT BEHIND US THE DIFFERENCES AND RECRIMINATIONS OF THE PAST AND TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE. I ASK YOU TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO HELP CREATE CONDITIONS OF HARMONY AND PEACE. WE LIVE IN A WORLD IN WHICH MANY COUNTRIES ARE BESET BY FAMINE AND BY INTERNAL STRIFE.

18. BY CONTRAST, WE HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH
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FOOD FOR OUR OWN REQUIREMENTS AND WE ARE IN A POSITION TO HELP ALLEVIATE MISERY AND STARVATION ELSEWHERE.

19. FURTHERMORE OUR OWN INTERNAL RACE RELATIONS, DESPITE CURRENT PROBLEMS, ARE EASIER AND MORE RELAXED THAN IN MOST COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE DIFFERNT RACIAL COMMUNITIES.

20. LET US BUILD ON THIS FOUNDATION. LET US ALL DO OUR BEST TO ESTABLISH A CLIMATE OF MUTUAL RESPECT IN WHICH CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS CAN BE DISCUSSED CALMLY AND OBJECTIVELY IN THE HOPE THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT WHICH WILL BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF ALL RHODESIANS.

21. I MAKE THIS APPEAL TO YOU BELIEVING THAT WHILE THIS MAY TURN OUT TO BE THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT, THE MAJOR TASK STILL LIES AHEAD WITH MANY COMPLEX PROBLEMS WHICH WILL TAX OUR ABILITY, OUR PATIENCE AND OUR STRENGTH.

2. IT WILL TAKE THE BEST OF OUR WELL-KNOWN
RHODESIAN SPIRIT AND COURAGE IF WE ARE TO WIN
THROUGH. IN THE LIGHT OF OUR PAST HISTORY I
DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE SHALL BE FOUND WANTING.

END TEXT.
WILKOWSKI

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